

His soul is but a shadow who does well . . .
Not for the love, but for the fear, of God.
Him only do I honor in whom right . . .
Flows from a God-like habit, whose clear soul . . .
In its own strength and beauty is secure,
Too proud to lie, too proud to be impure."

"A Re-assurance" is a poem of eight lines that may rightly be called a gem, and crystallizes the poet's attitude towards Nature. It closes thus:

"Fear me not, O little sparrow,
Bathe and never fear,
For to me both pool and yarrow
And thyself are dear."

He believes in a divine spirit of advancement permeating all human existence:

"There is a beauty at the goal of life,
A beauty growing since the world began."
To forward this movement "on and upward without cease,"
we are—
"To listen and keep watch till we discern
The tide of sovereign truth that guides it all,
So to address our spirits to the height,
And so attune them to the valiant whole,
That the great light be clearer for our light,
And the great soul the stronger for our soul:
To have done this is to have lived, though fame
Remember us with no familiar name."

Perhaps these few passages may go to show how this distinctly Canadian poet has endeavored to rear standards of conduct that any Canadian may adopt proudly, that any aspiring heart may embrace safely, who has the courage to believe that to *really live* means:

"To plant against the passion's dark control . . .
The simple standards of the soul."

Our helm is given up to a better guidance than our own. The course of events is quite too strong for any helmsman, and our little wherry is taken in tow by the ship of the Great Admiral, which knows the way, and has the force to draw men and states and planets to their good.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson.